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BULLETIN

OF THE

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Issued in
January, March, May, July, September and
November

There is no subscription price and the Bulletin is sent only to members of the Association.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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Executive offices—78 E. Washington St., Chicago.

IN JANUARY and February this year, 192 members joined the A. L. A. In the same months of last year the number was 316. If we are to equal in 1922 the record made last year—629 new members in the first four months—we must have 437 applications between now and April 30th. And why not? Are there not thousands of librarians and trustees who will join when they have a personal invitation?

“USEFUL books for business” and “useful books for the home” are the slogans for March of the booksellers and publishers. Travel week is to be observed in New York, March 25-April 1. Religious book week is scheduled again this year for April 2-8, and back-to-nature books are to be emphasized during all of that month.

READING lists issued by the American Library Association within the last few months have had relatively good distribution. Only *Children's books for Christmas presents* has sold to the extent of 65,000 copies but others have run into rather large editions. The advance orders for *Business books for profit and pleasure*

justify a first printing of 15,000 copies, and the orders for *Useful books for the home* have led us to print 10,000 on the first run.

But these figures are pitifully small when one remembers that there are more than 4,000 public libraries in America which might use these co-operative lists. The Editorial Committee and the Executive Board believe that it is only a matter of a few months until such lists will sell in editions of fifty, seventy-five or a hundred thousand.

The lists are prepared by people who know the subjects and know the needs of libraries. They are offered to libraries with special imprints so that they look like a home-town product, or with the A. L. A. imprint to give them that authoritative character, if it is desired. They are attractively printed and sold at less than it would cost the library to reprint them in similar form.

MANY libraries and some individuals have placed standing orders for all A. L. A. publications. In that way they get one copy of everything as soon as it is printed and can make prompt and intelligent decision as to the number of additional copies needed for the staff or for public distribution.

A CALIFORNIA librarian asks whether subscribing libraries are entitled to appropriate *The Booklist* notes for publicity purposes in local newspapers without quotations. The answer is yes; the notes are not copyrighted and should be used as much as possible. We are pleased when a footnote is added to the effect that the notes are taken from *The Booklist* of the American Library Association but this is not essential nor always appropriate.

The January *Bulletin* in its report of the mid-winter meeting of the League of Library Commissions announced E. Kathleen Jones as one of the members of the committee appointed to interest members of the state commissions in the Detroit conference. The name announced should have been E. Louise Jones.